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What a Wonderful Change Mark (5:1-20)

"We have sung it in church as long as we can remember." "What a wonderful change in my life..." Written by Rufus H. McDonald in 1914. Its happy and cheerful tune is a reflection of its glorious truth. That the Salvation that Christ Jesus brings in our lives is a wonderful miraculous marvelous change. A change from darkness to light, rebellion to consolation, from estrangement to embrace, from despair + desparation to hope + life eternal. No song would be more fitting for the scene before us tonight. A man who in one moment in time went from reveling in

I. The Sinners Requirement for Saving

Picture the scene, most likely coming off the boat in the dark, near the cemetery, when out of nowhere this this diabolic sight comes bounding toward

A. Demonic Bondage

Immediately we find that the text describes the man as having an unclean or impure or demonic spirit. ^{vs 2} We find in verse 7-9 this demon speaking and even giving his name. Now the question is who

do you believe? Far too often we allegorize the scripture and whisk away that which is not every day ordinary. It has been said that disbelief in Satan is the first step toward disbelief in God. With the rise of

the prevalence of the occult we have seen along with it the rise of suicide pornography, homosexuality. Sinner you may not be hearing your clatter... Eph 5

B. Depraved Behaviour - This demonic control leads to depraved behaviour vs 3-5. Lying making his home among the dead. We live in a culture of maniacs living in a culture of death. People losing all sense of decency cutting and harming themselves. This is the depraved mind self destructive behaviour we see around us every day, in the news in the paper down the street. Sim + Satan had taken everything from this man. His family, his life, is gone. Maniacs are not too hard to find and unless you agree ^{that this is you you will}

II. The Society's Rejection of the Saviour

There is a third character in our account today, they represent the society around us today that reject the Lord Jesus. There are some applicable reasons that they ^{reject}

A. They Wanted Control - vs 3-4.

Notice that Society tried to tame this man. Society tried to control this raging sinful man. Can you hear the complaints? I wish they would do something. Society says we

- 1) Reveling in demonic depravity, to revealing a determined discipleship. Every person can encounter the changing power of God's salvation through Christ Jesus by realizing three facts taken out of this text. Notice first of all ...
- 2) Ephesians 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 2 Corinthians 4:3-4 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

we can control him and they try to bind him - don't that what many say when confronted w/ Christ. They don't want to give ^{up control} to him.

B. They Reject the Cost - VS 11-17. The deliverance of this man cost them something. These hogs were the lively head of some farmer. And that price was just too high to pay. Like the rich young ruler of Mark 10. Go and sell all. He walked away sad, closting loose of that qualifying sin what is keeping you from receiving Christ's salvation.

C. They Refuse to Care - They cared more about the pigs than this man - you would think that they would have rejoiced but they didn't care.

It is too invaluable to care. Many times we as the church of Christ reject the Saviour in that we care more for our pet pigs than the lost souls around us. ¹ Just kidding.

We are so detached and uncaring for each other ^{sinner do you ever care for your} ~~sinners~~ ^{sinners}.

III. The Saviours Rule in Salvation
As always above all else we should see the powerful Servant of Jehovah in all his glory & majesty ruling over deamons and saving depraved lives.

A. He Cast out Satanic Power - VS 6-13. Society may have lost all hope for this man, yet as we will see in all

of the incredible miracles of the
Lord Jesus, man's extremely is
God's opportunity. These demons
came and crawled at the feet of Jesus
They recognize him for who he ^{author}
truly is and show themselves subject to him
B. He Consented to Society's Plea -
VS 17-18 Society said we don't
want you, we want you out of here
we don't want you messing with our
lines. What do we find from the Lord Jesus
He turns and walks away. Be careful what
you wish for you just might get it. It's
not ABC Repeat after me. You will not
be saved except he draw you. Better watch ^{wait}

C. He Changed this Sinful Person -
VS 15 - This encounter with Christ
completely changed this man's life. This
spitting cursing cutting wild man was
turned changed from the inside to the
outside. VS 18-19 This is the true character
of the believer in Christ. A desire to
follow him. Jesus said the best way for
you to follow me is to go and tell ^{home and} abroad

III. Closing - What a wonderful
wonderful change in my life has
been wrought since Jesus came into my
heart. Tonight I not only read this
man's story but mine and dare say ^{This can}
be your story

- 1) ...watch waiting for a more convenient season. That season may never come again. Today If ye hear his voice, harden not your heart.